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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/729,226	12/05/2000	Joyce Taylor-Papadimitriou	TAYLOR 1F	8271

1444 7590 06/02/2003

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EXAMINER

YU, MISOOK

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1642

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2003

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/729,226	TAYLOR-PAPADIMITRIOU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	MISOOK YU, Ph.D.	1642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-10 and 14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1 and 11-13 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Election/Restrictions***

Claims 2-10 remain withdrawn (for the reasons set forth in Paper No. 7, 1st paragraph) from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. The newly added claim 14 is also withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim because the claim is drawn to method of using the product of claim 11 to elicit an immune response and the method is a different invention because the elected invention and the method claimed in claim 14 are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product such as screening other polymorphic mucin encoding polynucleotides.

This application contains claims 2-10, and 14 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse in Paper No. 6. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancelation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

Claims 1-14 are pending and claims 1, and 11-13 are examined on merits.

Double Patenting

Claim 1 remains rejected for reason of record and the new claims 11-13 are also rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,054,438 because applicant has not supplied the terminal disclaimer. The expression vectors of claims 11-13 encoding the various protein comprising the repeat sequences are obvious variant of an expression vectors encoding "an antigen

which comprises an antigenically active segment...of a tandem repeat sequence of the core protein of a human polymorphic epithelial mucin..."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claim 1 remains rejected for reason of record and the new claims 11-13 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had **possession** of the claimed invention.

Applicant argues that the amended claim 1 is drawn to DNA obtainable using the recited probes. This argument is not persuasive because the specification as originally filed does not teach a DNA sequence encoding the full length size protein as stated in the previous Office action. The priority of the instant application goes back to 1987 and it appears that that the chemical structure of a DNA molecule encoding the full size core protein of a human polymorphic epithelial mucin was not known until 1990 when Marjolijn et al (1990, J Biol Chem vol. 265, pages 5573-8) published the structures at Fig. 5 at page 5577. Note Bonfrer (EB of IDS, Paper No. 10, 1995, Ned Tijdchr Klin Chem, vol. 20, pages 301-304) for the general state of art about discovery of mucin sequences and genetic polymorphisms associated with the sequence.

Applicant further argues claim 11 does not require the expression vector encoding a naturally occurring full-length size protein and the skilled worker can readily synthesize DNA to encode a polypeptide comprising one or more of the disclosed repeat sequence. However, this argument is not persuasive because applicant argument is not commensurate in scope of the claim. The claim as written includes a DNA encoding the full-length core protein such as the unpredictable sequences taught by Marjolijn et al and other DNA molecules encoding a varied repeat sequence due to allelic variances in the repeat sequence. Further claims 12 and 13 are also drawn to drawn to a genus of unpredictable species the specification does not describe such as a DNA

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molecule encoding the full-length core protein of a human polymorphic epithelial mucin.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MISOOK YU, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 703-308-2454. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony C Caputa can be reached on 703-308-3995. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3014 for regular communications and 703-872-9307 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

Misook Yu

May 28, 2003

Mary Mosher
MARY E. MOSHER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1800
1605